

Hurricane Disaster Relief Information for the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP)  
Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services  
Community Food and Nutrition Assistance  
800-733-6251  
September 7, 2005

The U.S. Department of Agriculture and the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services are working closely with organizations to assure that homeless and displaced individuals from Hurricane Katrina receive benefits of the CACFP. The following information summarizes CACFP eligibility for emergency shelters, at-risk programs, child care centers, adult care centers and family child care homes.

**Emergency Shelters:**

- Where significant numbers of persons displaced by Hurricane Katrina are being temporarily housed, the Department of Health and Senior Services (DHSS) will designate any appropriate facility as an emergency shelter, and will waive usual institution application requirements in these situations.
- When DHSS has designated a facility as an emergency shelter, all children through age 18, and any adults normally eligible to receive benefits in the adult day care segment of CACFP (functionally impaired adults and adults age 60 and over), may receive reimbursement for up to three free meals (breakfast, lunch, and supper) or two meals and a snack per day.
- If a school is providing educational services, and is also housing displaced persons eligible for CACFP, the school may sign an agreement with the DHSS and serve up to three meals per day without charge to such persons, as described above. DHSS will waive institution application requirements.

**At-Risk Snack Programs in the CACFP**

- In areas where there are significant numbers of persons displaced by the disaster, DHSS may approve sites to serve at-risk after school snacks and suppers, including on holidays and weekends, without regard to the requirement to provide “enrichment or educational” activities.

**Other Child and Adult Care Facilities (Homes and Centers) Participating in CACFP:**

- In areas where there are significant numbers of persons displaced by the disaster, to the extent that enrollment and income eligibility forms cannot be obtained from displaced persons, center officials or the child care home provider may document free meal eligibility for displaced participants being served by compiling and retaining a list (roster) of such persons.

➤ In areas where there are significant numbers of persons displaced by the disaster, to the extent that enrollment and income eligibility forms can be obtained from displaced persons:

- Households certified for emergency food stamps are automatically eligible for free meals in centers or tier I meals in family child care homes;
- Displaced individuals may be considered homeless, and automatically eligible for free meals in centers and tier I meals in family child care homes, even if they are temporarily residing with another family. However, the host family would have to provide a revised application (and can include those displaced by the disaster as long as any income provided to the host family is also included on the application) in order for the host family's children to be eligible for free or reduced price meal benefits;
- If an income eligibility statement cannot be obtained from a displaced household, a center official or the family child care provider may complete an application on behalf of the displaced participant, based on the best available knowledge of the household's economic circumstances.
- Center officials, or the family child care provider, should review eligibility determinations made under these crisis procedures within 45 days.